335 given in the Rajya Sabha onl 13-12-1991 and to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that instructions have been issued to schools in all the States and U.Ts. for singing of National Song and National Anthem;

(b) if so, the State-wise number of schools where these instructions are not followed; and whether there are instructions to stop Government aid and grants to such schools; and

(c) the details of policy and response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) Orders regarding community singing of National Anthem in all schools of the country have been issued from time to time. Most recently, in October 1991, the Minister of Human Resource Development, addressed all the Chief Ministers and Lt. Governors to issue necessary directives for singing of National Anthem in Schools, However, no instructions have been issued regarding singing of National Song.

No specific reports regarding non-implementation of the Oct.' 91 instructions relating to National Anthem have been received so far from any State/ Union Territory.

The policy of the Government on the singing of National Anthem has been that there should be community singing of the National Anthem in all schools every day.

Expenditure in foreign currency

4183. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Council of Historical Research usually does not take permission from the Reserve Bank of India for expenditure to be made in foreign currency;

(b) if so, the steps taken and proposed to be taken to keep a check on avoidable expenditure; and

(c) the names and designations of the persons permitted to spend foreign) exchange during each year of the Seventh Plan period with amounts?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Indian Council of Historical Research, the Council sanctions maintenance grant to scholars in Indian currency to undertake research abroad. Scholars, who are sanctioned such grants, have themselves to apply to the Reserve Bank of India for foreign exchange under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

(c) Information regarding scholars who have availed of financial assistance from the Council for visit abroad during the 7th Plan period is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Project "Towards Freedom"

4184. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) when the Indian Council of Historical Research started the project "Towards Freedom" and the total amount spent so far and whether the project is likely to be completed by the end of 1992; and

(b) whether Government propose to wind up the project to stop further wastage?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The project 'Towards Freedom" was taken up by the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) on 20th August, 1973. So far,